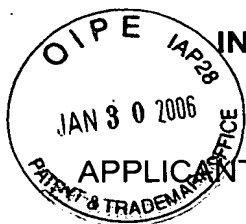


*JPW*



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

APPLICANTS: Assmann et al. CONFIRMATION NO.: 4948

SERIAL NO.: 10/725,622 GROUP ART UNIT: 3737

FILED: December 2, 2003

TITLE: "MRT APPARATUS, METHOD AND COMPUTER PROGRAM  
PRODUCT FOR SPEED-RESOLVED FLOW MEASUREMENT"

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

S I R:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants request that citation and examination of the following documents be made during the course of examination of the above-referenced application for United States Letters Patent.

- AA United States Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0015071
- AB United States Patent No. 6,002,254
- AL PCT Application WO 99/63355
- AT "A Flow Velocity Zeugmatographic Interface for NMR Imaging in Humans," Moran, Magnetic Resonance Imaging, Vol. 1, pages 197-203 (1982)
- AU "Motion Correction in fMRI via Registration of Individual Slices Into an Anatomical Volume, Kim et al., Magnetic Resonance in Medicine, Vol. 41, pages 964-972 (1999)
- AV" "Techniken der Magnetresonanz-Angiographie," Laub et al., electromedica, Vol.66, No. 2, pages 62-70 (1998)
- AW "Motion-Selective Encoding for Fast Cine Imaging," Yang et al., Magnetic Resonance in Medicine, Vol. 42, pages 430-435 (1999)

### **EXPLANATION OF RELEVANCE**

The PCT application (which is in Chinese) corresponding to Reference AA, and the published German application corresponding to Reference AB, were cited by the German Patent and Trademark Office together with References AL and AT through AW in connection with the counterpart German application.

For the references that are in English, no further commentary concerning their teachings is necessary. An English translation of Reference AV is not readily available to the Applicants. Reference AV provides a general overview of various techniques for magnetic resonance angiography, including the time-of-flight (ToF) technique, the phase contrast technique, and the contrast agent-enhanced technique.

Copies of References AL and AT through AW are submitted herewith, together with Form 1449 on which all of the references are listed.

As of the date of mailing of this Information Disclosure Statement, a first Office Action on the merits has not been received in connection with this application, and therefore, this Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)(3), and no fee is necessary.

The Search Report from the German Patent and Trademark Office in which the above references were cited was dated December 12, 2005. Therefore, should this Information Disclosure Statement cross in the mail with a first Office Action on the merits in connection with the United States application, this Information Disclosure Statement is still in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and no fee is necessary. Accordingly, the undersigned counsel states, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1), that each of the above items was first cited in a communication from a

foreign Patent Office in connection with a counterpart application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

All claims of the application are submitted to be patentable over the teachings of the above references, taken singly or in combination. Early consideration of the application is therefore respectfully requested.

Submitted by,

Steven H. Noll (Reg. 28,982)

SCHIFF, HARDIN LLP

**CUSTOMER NO. 26574**

Patent Department

6600 Sears Tower

233 South Wacker Drive

Chicago, Illinois 60606

Telephone: 312/258-5790

Attorneys for Applicants.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 on January 27, 2006.

Steven H. Noll  
STEVEN H. NOLL

Form PTO-1449

Docket No.  
P03,0479Serial No.  
10/725,622

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION  
IN AN APPLICATION**  
(use several sheets if necessary)

Applicant  
Assmann et al.Filing Date  
December 2, 2003Group Art Unit  
3737**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner's Initials		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date If appropriate
	AA	2004/0015071	01/22/2004	Komura et al.			
	AB	6,002,254	12/14/99	Kassai et al.			
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						
	AG						
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation	
							Yes	No
	AL	WO 99/63355	12/9/99	PCT				
	AM							
	AN							
	AO							
	AP							
	AQ							
	AR							
	AS							

**OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)**

	AT	"A Flow Velocity Zeugmatographic Interface for NMR Imaging in Humans," Moran, Magnetic Resonance Imaging, Vol. 1, pages 197-203 (1982)
	AU	"Motion Correction in fMRI via Registration of Individual Slices Into an Anatomical Volume, Kim et al., Magnetic Resonance in Medicine, Vol. 41, pages 964-972 (1999)
	AV	"Techniken der Magnetresonanz-Angiographie," Laub et al., electromedica, Vol.66, No. 2, pages 62-70 (1998)
	AW	"Motion-Selective Encoding for Fast Cine Imaging," Yang et al., Magnetic Resonance in Medicine, Vol. 42, pages 430-435 (1999)
	AX	
	AY	
	AZ	

Examiner

Date Considered

**\*EXAMINER:** Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.